

WITNESS SPRINGS FLUME SENSATION

Says Contractors Used Short
Cement Supply When In-
spector Wasn't Looking.

HAD DIRECT ORDER FROM CONTRACTORS

Foreman Employed by Crouse
Company Could Not Be
Shaken by Cross-Examina-
tion; Now Seek Man Who
Referred to Rotten Con-
crete on Work.

STARTLING evidence, which is alleged to show how the city was misled in the erection of the settling basin flume, was introduced before the investigating committee last night, J. T. Atkins, a foreman for the Crouse Construction Company, testifying on oath that his instructions from his superior were that whenever the city inspector, Mr. Charles Mann, was not present, he should put three bags of cement, instead of four, into each batch of concrete as mixed. A rigid cross-examination failed to break the evidence, or to show any ulterior motive on the part of the witness in coming forward at this time. Recent developments in the inquiry have been decidedly favorable to the city's case against the contractors, now pending in court, and the general trend has been more favorable to City Engineer Bolling, author of the plans for the flume, and in vindication of his general estimate of the concrete flume, although each step has put the inspector, resident engineers and contractor more and more in an unenviable position.

Going After Another Witness.
Confirmation was received from Froehling & Robertson, chemists, and from records of the Virginia Department of Public Works, that the concrete used in the settling basin flume was of a poor quality, while the cubic area of the flume would require nearly 5,000, and Superintendent Hodgson testified that 4,862 1-2 barrels were used. The investigating committee will meet tomorrow at 2 P. M. to hear the testimony of the witnesses. Chairman Mills, of the Water Committee, of the use of rotten cement. After this the investigators will read the stenographic record of testimony and begin to map out their report to the Council. It is not probable that expert testimony will be called.

The first witness last night was R. J. Smith, who told of a trip up the river summer before last, while the flume was under construction.

"I saw some concrete on the batch board, which had been standing some time," he said, "and I saw it with my foot, and it seemed to have taken its initial set. I went on up the river and came back an hour or two later, and the concrete was gone, the mixing board was wet, and apparently other concrete had been mixed."

"I thought they had used it, but I don't know. I saw it with my foot, and I don't think concrete that has taken its initial set would be fit to use. Recently I went out to the flume with a concrete engineer from Atlanta, who had expressed a desire to see the work. He told me that from indications in the concrete he thought it had been reworked."

Tricked Inspector, He Says.
J. T. Atkins, who said he was a foreman of woodwork with the Crouse Construction Company, erecting the forms and building the flume, was sworn in. When Mr. Mann, the foreman in charge, was absent for ten days or two weeks, running for Mayor of Perth Amboy, N. J., Mr. Atkins acted as general foreman in charge of the work, under instructions of Mr. Hodgson, the general superintendent. He had observed the work of the men, and had been putting it into the forms, but had never seen specifications or any plans except those for the woodwork and manholes.

"How was the work done?"
"The work was done indifferently at times, but was better at other times. While I was acting as general foreman I had instructions from Mr. Hodgson to use one bag less cement when Mr. Charles Mann was not present."

"When he was present we used four bags, or a barrel to each batch. Whenever he was absent, the men used three bags, and I carried out Mr. Hodgson's orders. Sometimes Mr. Mann was a little late, and we put in three or four batches before he came. At other times when he was looking about the work, or not at the mixer, we used one bag less than when he was there—three instead of four. This continued for more than ten days when I was acting as general foreman in charge. I don't know what instructions were given to the foreman who succeeded me. Mr. Brown came down and took charge of the work about that time. Since I saw in the paper that the city had sued the Crouse Company I told Mr. Harry Baker, of the Water Department, about this, and he had me summoned here. I was with the Crouse Company from April to Christmas, 1908, and left to take a better job with James Fox & Sons, builders, with whom I have been working for years."

"Didn't you know it was wrong to deceive the inspector in this way?"
"I never gave it a thought. I was working under instructions, or not, as the case may be. What else did you tell Mr. Baker?"

Laid in Mud and Water.
"I told him about the way the wires lapped, and how the water washed in over the invert. Mr. Mann was very particular about cleaning the invert, but he was late in the morning, and there was mud on it. I saw that myself. He could have seen it if he had looked as closely as I did. There were two Mr. Bollings. Mr. Charles Bolling, I think, approved our forms, and we would all be young as

QUEEN PRESSES CLAIMS

Lillookalani Appears Before Committee
with George Washington Heirs.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14.—After years of vain endeavor to obtain compensation for the loss of her kingdom, Lillookalani, former Queen of Hawaii, today appeared in person before the House Committee on Claims to press her claim. The Queen is willing to accept \$250,000 and a plot of land in the Hawaiian Islands. She was accompanied by Princess Kalanianoʻe, wife of the late King, and by her son, Prince Kihiko, who is now in the Hawaiian Islands. The committee also heard from George Washington Heirs, who claimed that the Queen had a life interest in the Hawaiian Islands. The committee will consider the claim.

TO PROSECUTE PUBLISHERS

Panama Canal Purchase Is to Be Fully
Examined by District Attorney.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14.—The Department of Justice has turned over to United States District Attorney Stimson of the Southern District of New York, all the papers connected with the Panama Canal purchase, which has been the target for criticism since the purchase was made. The papers include the contract, the correspondence, and the financial records. The department is expected to file a bill of indictment against the publishers of the New York Herald Tribune, who published a sensational article about the purchase.

THE VIRGINIA DEBT

Governor Dawson Refers to It in
Message to West Virginia Legislature.

CHARLESTON, W. VA., January 14.—Governor Dawson today referred to the Virginia debt in his message to the West Virginia Legislature. He stated that the debt was a burden on the people of the state, and that it was necessary to take steps to reduce it. He also mentioned the fact that the state had been successful in securing a loan from the Federal Government to help pay the debt.

BILL IS TABLED

Mr. Landis Wanted Public to Know
About Secret Service.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14.—There was a recrudescence in the House of Representatives today of the controversy over the bill to provide for the payment of the interest on the public debt. The bill was introduced by Mr. Landis, of Indiana, and it was debated for several hours. The bill was finally tabled, and the House adjourned.

HEADLESS BODY

That of Attorney and Politician Found
in Ruins of Hotel.

TOPEKA, KAN., January 14.—The headless body of Isaac E. Lambert, an attorney and politician, was found in the ruins of the Copeland Hotel, which was burned early this morning. The body was found in a room on the second floor, and it was identified by the police. The cause of the fire is still unknown.

FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

Rockefeller Knows Proper Scheme of
Life, and Will Reach 100.

CLEVELAND, O., January 14.—Dr. H. Baggart, physician and close personal friend of John D. Rockefeller, today denied the report that the old magnate was suffering from rheumatism. He said Mr. Rockefeller was enjoying perfect health, and that he was planning to live to be a hundred years old. Dr. Baggart said that Mr. Rockefeller was a man of a strong constitution, and that he was able to resist the effects of age.

CONFESSES AND TELLS OF CRIME

Pennsylvania Farmer Is Un-
able to Stand Out Against
the Accusation.

YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER MADE DENUNCIATION

Unmoved by the Enormity of
His Crime, He Coolly Tells
of How He Killed Stran-
ger, and the Girl Assist-
ed in Disposing of
the Body.

YORK PA., January 14.—Unable to withstand the strain of the close questioning to which he had been subjected, Harry Keener today confessed that he was guilty of the murder of which he had been accused by his former housekeeper, eighteen-year-old Lorena Tawser. He declares, however, that he assisted her to sever the legs, arms and head from the body of the unknown man whom he shot and killed on the 21st of last July.

Apparently unmoved by the enormity of the crime, he pointed out to the detectives, places on his farm where severed and burned portions of the body were to be found.

TELLS OF CRIME.

In his confession Keener said: The man came to our house and rapped on the door. I had never seen him before. He said, 'I'm going to kill you.' I took my revolver and shot him four times.

Girl Denies It.

Miss Tawser denied that she assisted in disposing of the body, and says that Keener's motive was jealousy of her. She said that she had been with him for a year, and that she had never seen him before.

His Checkered Career.

Two years ago he was married, but separated from his wife after living with her for about a year. He then married Lorena Tawser, and went to live on a small farm which he owned about eight miles out of town. After the date on which the murder occurred, he advertised in a matrimonial paper and secured a wife, whom he took to live on his mother's farm at New Salem.

While Attending Court Last Week.

Miss Tawser heard the testimony in a murder case, and was seized with spasms, and believing that she was going to die, she told an admirer of a murder that had been committed by Keener last July.

Prosecution in Night Rider Cases Se- cures Some Further Evidence.

UNION CITY, TENN., January 14.—The prosecution in the night rider cases secured further evidence today when two of the men held in connection with the lynching of Captain Quentin Rankin made voluntary confessions, telling of the part they had in the affair and of others who they asserted participated. The trials will probably be resumed tomorrow.

CHILEANS WON

Defeated American Team From Pacific
Fleet in Shooting Match.

CONCEPCION, CHILE, January 14.—A team of officers from the American Pacific fleet took part in a shooting match with Chilean marksmen yesterday, in which the Chileans won. A dinner in honor of the Americans followed. An American band from one of the ships played in the plaza.

EDGAR ALLAN POE

On Sunday The Times-Dispatch
will print a handsome and complete
section devoted exclusively to the
life, times and works of Edgar Allan
Poe.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL

Russian Commander in Battle of Sea
of Japan Passes Away.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 14.—The death is announced of Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky, who was in command of the Russian fleet in May, 1905, when it was practically annihilated by the Japanese in the battle of the Sea of Japan.

MUST REPENT AND HAVE FAITH IN GOD

Is Solemn Message Dr. Chap-
man Delivers to Vast Au-
dience at Auditorium.

TOUCHES HEARERS WITH HIS SINCERITY

Declares That Even Ministers of
the Gospel, Church Officers
and Members Cannot Enter
Kingdom of Heaven Un-
less They Repent of
Every Known Sin.

REPENTANCE and faith were the keywords of a strong sermon which Rev. J. William Chapman, D. D., delivered to an audience of nearly 4,000 men, women and children at the City Auditorium last night.

At the very outset, Dr. Chapman confessed that he had not always given the weight to the doctrine of repentance that it deserved. With this confession off his mind, he proceeded in eloquent terms to teach to his hearers, and to reveal to them the full effect of repentance and of faith.

Will Stay Up.

Justice Crane sent word to the jurors that he would remain up all night to receive a verdict, as he did not desire to lock up the jury by the arrangement with counsel, a physician remained near the jury room to minister to Juror Walsh should his injuries demand it. A sofa was placed in the jury room so that the injured juror could recline and rest himself during the deliberations. The jury room had not reached a verdict soon after retiring.

The Judge's Charge.

Justice Crane began his charge at 3:30, and in speaking of the people's case, said with much emphasis: "If this defendant aided and abetted his brother he is guilty of a crime. I do not say the crime."

Looks Like Disagreement.

The jury was still out at 2:35 this morning (January 15th), and no word had been heard from them. Justice Crane said he would remain within easy distance of court all night, in order to receive the verdict whenever the jury was ready to render one. Counsel for the defense said at this hour that it looked like a disagreement.

KILL MANY DEER

Hunters in Vermont Slay Over Two
Thousand in One Season.

STOWE, VT., January 14.—The number of deer killed in Vermont during the open season of 1908 was 2,255, as given in an official statement by State Game Commissioner H. G. Thomas. Among the counties Windsor boasts of the largest number killed—384—while Washington comes second with 269 and Rutland third with 269.

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THE FATE OF HAINS IS WITH THE JURY

Twelve Men Retired Yester-
day Afternoon to Con-
sider His Fate.

JUSTICE DELIVERS CHARGE TO THE JURY

Question Is, Did Thornton Hains
Assist Brother in Killing of
Annis, and Not Was Cap-
tain Hains Crazy at
Time of Crime,
Says Court.

FLUSHING, N. Y., January 14.—The jury in the case of Thornton Hains retired at 4:55 o'clock this afternoon to determine whether the indictment charging him with being a principal with his brother, Captain Peter C. Hains, Jr., in the killing of William E. Annis was proved or not. The jurors had deliberated about fifty minutes when they went out for supper, returning to the jury room in less than half an hour.

The charge given to the jury after Prosecutor Darrin had completed his closing argument and Justice Crane had charged the jury and reviewed the evidence.

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OFFER OF LAND

Duke Pompeo Little Would Colonize
Homeless Italians in Florida.

PARIS, January 14.—Duke Pompeo Little, of Lombardy, called on the Italian ambassador, Signor Gallina, today and offered to donate part of an extensive tract of land in Manatee county, Florida, owned by him, for the purpose of colonizing 5,000 victims of the earthquake in Calabria and Sicily. The ambassador has communicated the duke's proposal to the Italian government.

CHAMBER CAUTIOUS ABOUT PASSING RESOLUTION URGING LESS DRASTIC POLICY.

Plans for Future Welfare Dis-
cussed at Annual Meeting,
Old Officers Being Elected
Again — Vice-President
Wood's Report of Past
Year's Progress.

SENT TO COMMITTEE AFTER LONG DEBATE

ASIDE from the election of officers and the discussion of essential measures for the future conduct of the organization, the most important question which came before the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce last night was the resolution adopted by the Southern Industrial Congress at its recent convention in Washington relative to the co-operation of the people with the railways and other corporate interests to the end that the confidence of investors might be maintained and the railways enabled to increase their facilities so as to more adequately handle the growing products of the South. The resolution asks that the transportation companies be safeguarded by conservative and the confidence of investors urged upon Southern legislators, the wisdom and policy of condemning agitation leading to the contrary.

EXPRESS COMPANIES

Interstate Commerce Commission De-
clines It Has Right to Investigate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14.—Holding that there might be some question of unjust discrimination in the matter of express companies dealing in exchange money orders, the Interstate Commerce Commission today refused to dismiss the complaint of the American Bankers' Association against the American Express Company.

OLD WAR CLAIMS

Massachusetts Asks for \$305,000 on
Account of French Spoils.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14.—The omnibus claims bill was taken up in the Senate today, and consideration of committee amendments was continued.

ARKANSAS GOVERNOR

Inaugurated Yesterday and Delivers Ad-
dress Making Many Recommendations.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., January 14.—George W. Donaghey was today inaugurated as Governor of Arkansas. Governor Donaghey in his inaugural address recommended the establishment of four agricultural schools, the formation of a State board of education to bring about a uniformity of text books, the utilizing and conserving of the natural resources of the State; appropriation for the maintenance of Convalescent Home for more stringent force laws; submission of a bill to the question of Statewide prohibition and the initiative and referendum.

NO TRACE OF SHIP

French Cruiser Goes Overboard, But
She Can Find in Virginia.

PARIS, January 14.—The commander of the French cruiser Admiral Aube telegraphed from Gibraltar that during the voyage from New York he had been unable to obtain any trace of the missing Fabre Line steamship Neustria.

TRIPLE KILLING

Farm Hand Kills Employer, His Brother
and Commits Suicide.

MODENA, MO., January 14.—John Brown Thompson, a young farmer, who lives near here, drove his employer off the premises at the point of a revolver this afternoon, and after killing Thompson, who was a young man, he killed his employer's brother, Buller Thompson, committed suicide.

YELLOW STREAK

Sea Captain Discovers One in Gulf
Stream Off Virginia Capes.

NEW YORK, January 14.—The discovery of a yellow streak in the Gulf Stream was reported by Captain Pedersen of the steamer Karan, which arrived today from Porto Cabello.

FOR GENERAL ROSSER

Son in Washington Seeking Leaders,
Looking to His Reappointment.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14.—Thomas L. Rosser, Jr., of Charlottesville, Va., was here yesterday in the interest of his father, General Rosser, who is an applicant to succeed himself as postmaster at Charlottesville.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Vice-President Wood's report, cover-
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Building of the State

THE CROZET BOARD OF TRADE,

Crozet, Va., January 13, 1909.

Industrial Editor Times-Dispatch, Richmond:

Dear Sir,—I am directed by the entire membership of our Board of Trade to thank you

for the exceedingly good and accurate write-up you made of Crozet in the Industrial Sec-

tion of last Sunday's Times-Dispatch.

We have already received some thirty-odd inquiries as first results.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) WALTER WHATELY,

Secretary.